

## **Congressman Childers Presents Medals to DeSoto WWII Veteran**

August 31, 2010

Washington, DC – Today, U.S. Rep. Travis Childers (MS-01) presented military medals to Mr. Morris Casey, a WWII veteran from Walls, at the Hernando Congressional Office. The medals included a Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Presidential Unit Citation, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, and a World War II Victory Medal.

“Our WWII veterans made great sacrifices to protect our freedoms. Mr. Casey was a true leader in combat, having gone above and beyond to make sacrifices for his men and his country,” said Childers. “It is my privilege and honor to award Mr. Casey, just six days shy of his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, with the medals he bravely and honorably earned during his selfless service to this great nation. I express my deepest gratitude to Mr. Casey, his family, and veterans from Mississippi and nationwide.”

Mr. Casey enlisted in the Army at the age of 21, joining the 78<sup>th</sup> infantry also known as the “Lightning” division. He fought in the Battle of Hürtgen Forest, a staging area for what became known as the Battle of the Bulge and the longest single battle the Americans had ever fought in the history of the U.S. military.

After enduring countless tree bursts during the Battle of the Bulge’s 40 day and 40 night siege, the seasoned Sergeant Casey was given command of 25 troops and two 105 millimeter howitzers and ordered to assault the strategically critical dam. Cut off from support, it was here that Sergeant Casey led his men against a staggering number of German defenders. Although wounded, he persevered and continued to lead the assault.

For wounds sustained and heroic action, now Technical Sergeant Casey was accredited with the Purple Heart Medal and the Bronze Star Medal; however he was never physically awarded these medals until today.

*A pro-gun, pro-life Mississippian, Congressman Travis Childers (MS-01) represents the First Congressional District in North Mississippi. He is a member of the fiscally conservative Blue Dog Coalition and serves on the House Agriculture and Financial Services Committee. Congressman Childers co-chairs the reestablished bipartisan Congressional Rural Caucus and was appointed to the bipartisan Second Amendment Task Force. For more information, visit [www.childers.house.gov](http://www.childers.house.gov)*